I Claim:

1. A method for automatically generating current distribution order data with the inclusion of central address directories, which are stored in databases and are transmitted by electronic data transfer, as distribution order data, having the following steps:
- the current central address directory or the parts relating to the relevant area is/are copied locally,
- locally stored change instructions regarding a relative positional change for delivery points in the distribution order for the previous version of the central address directory or of the relevant parts (the delivery points being identified on the basis of identification data containing at least the sorting code) are transferred to the local copy of the current central address directory or of the relevant parts,
- a check is carried out to determine whether the change instructions have already been implemented in the copied current address directory or whether they are yet to be executed,
- the valid change instructions yet to be executed are stored in an audit file and the change instructions are executed.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, where the identification data additionally incorporate house number extensions locally.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, where the identification data . additionally incorporate distinguishing remarks locally.

4. The method as claimed in claim 3, where forwarding and/or distribution advice is incorporated into the copied address directory by carrying out the following steps:

5 - a check is carried out to determine whether the delivery point for the respective forwarding and/or distribution advice exists in the copied current address directory for the distribution order data, and if so

10 - the new forwarding and/or distribution advice is added to the copied address directory, with the new forwarding and/or distribution advice having priority over the old forwarding and/or distribution advice of the same type, and

15 - the complete change data for the forwarding and/or distribution advice are incorporated into the audit file.

5. The method as claimed in claim 1, where the
20 central address directory or address directory parts is/are updated by transmitting only incremental changes by data transfer, which are merged with the previously current and copied address directory or address directory part by using the identification data for
25 each delivery point to check in the previously current address directory or address directory part whether the respective delivery point in the incremental change is already present, and if not, it is incorporated into the copied address directory or address directory part
30 at the concomitantly transmitted position of the distribution order, and if so, the respective delivery point is moved to the changed position in the address directory.

6.   The method as claimed in claim 5, where the move of a delivery point is implemented by deleting said delivery point at the previous position of the address directory and re-entering it at the changed position.

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